

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20 and 22-29 have been amended. Claim 3 and 17 have been previously cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-16 and 18-39 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 10, 15, 20, 24, 27, 30, 33, 38 and 39 are independent claims. No new matters are believed to be added by these Amendments.

The Office Action indicates that claims 10-14 and 30-39 are allowed and claims 4-9, 18-23 and 25-29 are allowable but objected to for being dependent from the rejected base claims.

In view of the above amendments and the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending objections and rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 15, 16 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6,406,949 issued to Kim ("Kim"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

With respect to claims 1 and 2, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite:

“1. A display device, comprising:
...
a *photosensitive layer* formed on the pixel region and the peripheral region; and
...
wherein the *photosensitive layer* has a first thickness in the opening region and a second thickness in the peripheral region except for the opening region, the first thickness being smaller than the second thickness.”

Kim is directed to etching three layers in a single step. Fig. 1 of Kim is directed to the conventional art, in which the insulating layer 4 is covering the gate pad 21 and the passivation layer 10 is covering the TFT. An opening is formed through the passivation layer 10 and the insulating layer 4 to expose the gate pad 21.

However, Kim fails to disclose or suggest that the insulating layer 4 and the passivation layer 10 are a photosensitive layer, as claimed. Thus, Kim would not be able to disclose or suggest “wherein the photosensitive layer has a first thickness in the opening region and a second thickness in the peripheral region except for the opening region, the first thickness being smaller than the second thickness”, as claimed.

For these reasons, it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Kim. Claim 2 is dependent from claim 1 and hence would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

With respect to claims 15, 16 and 24, amended independent claim 15 recites:

“forming *a photosensitive layer* over the pixel region and the peripheral region; and
patterning the photosensitive layer to form an opening region in the peripheral region such that *the photosensitive layer has a first thickness in the opening region and a second thickness in the peripheral region except for the opening region, the first thickness being smaller than the second thickness*”.

As mentioned above, Kim fails to disclose these claimed features. Thus, it is submitted that claim 15 is patentable over Kim. Claims 16 and 24 are dependent from claim 15 and hence would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

Claim Objections

With respect to objected claims 4-9, as mentioned above, their base claim (claim 1) has been amended and is now believed to be patentable over Kim. Thus, claims 4-9 would be also

patentable at least for the same reason. With respect to objected claims 18-23 and 25-29, their base claim (claim 15) has been amended and is now believed to be patentable over Kim. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection over claims 4-9, 18-23 and 25-29 is respectfully requested.


CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submits that all of the stated objections and grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Hae-Chan Park
Reg. No. 50,114

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McGuireWoods LLP
1750 Tysons Boulevard
Suite 1800
McLean, VA 22102-4215
Tel: 703-712-5365
Fax: 703-712-5280
HCP:WSC/tmk

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